



City of Santa Barbara
Airport Department

Memorandum

DATE: April 18, 2012
TO: Airport Commission
FROM: Karen Ramsdell, Airport Director
SUBJECT: 2011 Integrated Pest Management Annual Report

Recommendation:

That Airport Commission recommend that City Council accept the Santa Barbara Integrated Pest Management Strategy, 2011 Annual Report, dated March 2012.

Background:

The City of Santa Barbara adopted an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) strategy in January 2004 to reduce the amount and toxicity of pesticides used by the City and, where feasible, to eliminate pesticide use in public areas using alternative methods. This report highlights only Airport portions of the attached 2011 IPM Annual Report.

In early 2006, the City adopted the Pesticide Hazard and Exposure Reduction (PHAER) Zone model. In that model, areas of the Airport were mapped based on potential human and environmental pesticide hazard and exposure risk, as green, yellow or special circumstance (red) zones. Accordingly pest control products were evaluated on a range of human and environmental toxicity measures and rated as green, yellow or special circumstance (red). On a continuum, green products have low human and environmental toxicity, while there is high concern over the human and/or environmental toxicity traits associated with special circumstance (red) products. The model informs an applicator of the appropriate type of product to use in a specific area of the City.

Alternatives Used:

- Alternative efforts focused on the control of weeds through mechanical methods, including string trimming and hand weeding. 5,140 hours of alternative efforts were documented in 2011 by the Airport.
- Airport and its contractors applied 280 yards of mulch to help control weeds.
- Gophers outside the airfield fence were controlled with mechanical steel traps.

Airport Department Pesticide Use:

Airport pesticide applications concentrated on three types of pests in 2011: mosquitoes, rodents and weeds.

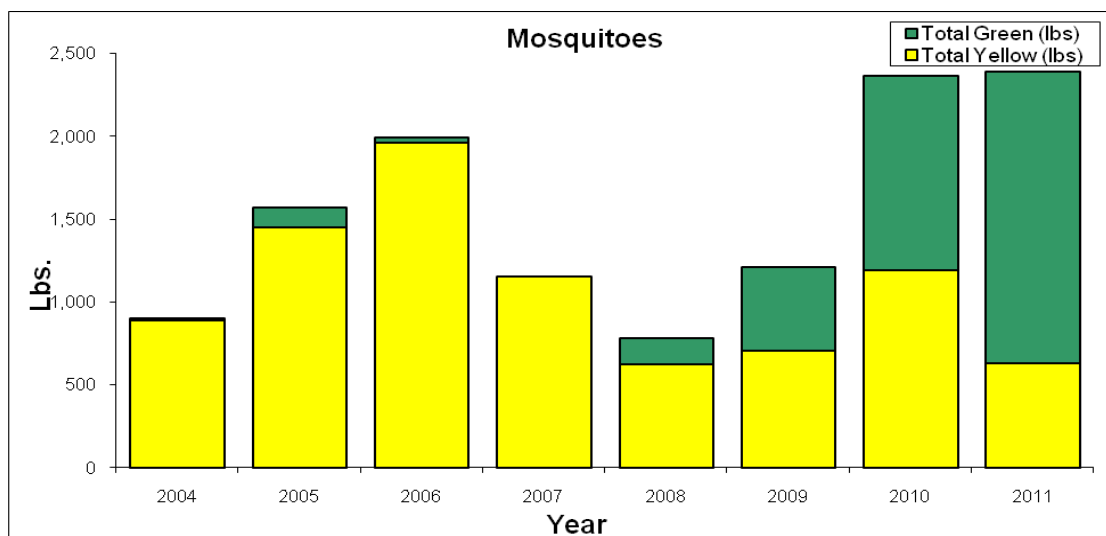
Exemptions

Exemptions from the IPM strategy are required for application of materials not identified on the approved materials list, special circumstance (red) materials and for applications of materials that pose more of a hazard than is allowed by the PHAER zone designation. In 2011, Airport requested and was granted a programmatic exemption for Natular XRT; a green mosquito control product.

Mosquitoes

For 2011 Airport, relied on Altosid XR, a yellow extended release larvicide, Vectobac, a green BTI based material and Natular XRT, a green spinosad based material, to control mosquito sources in the Goleta Slough. As a result of the use of Natular XRT, relative amounts of yellow materials applied decreased and green materials increased. The Mosquito and Vector Management District of Santa Barbara County monitors mosquito populations and performs control activities for the Airport.

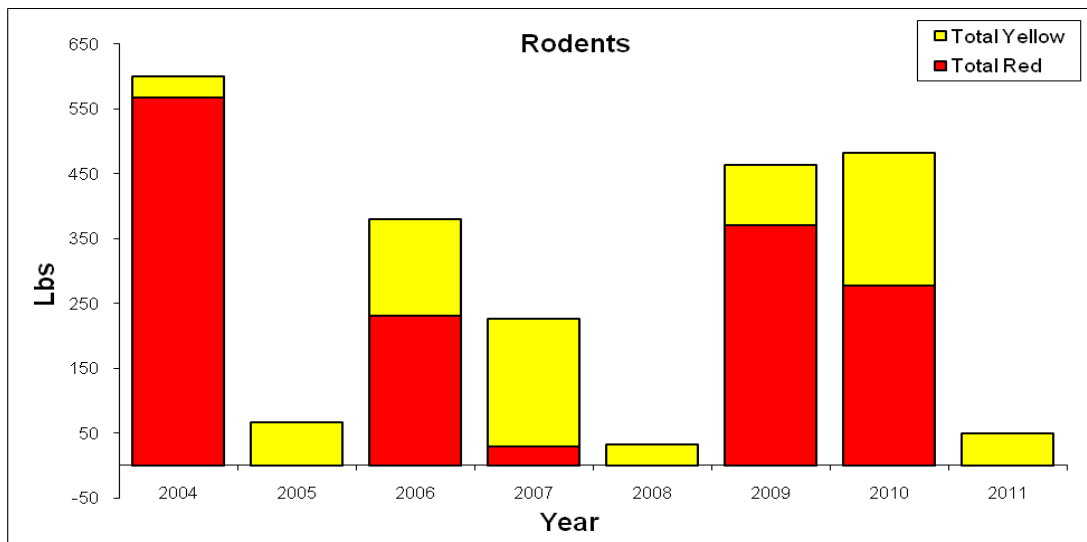
In 2011 the Mosquito and Vector Management District applied 628.55 lbs of Altosid XR, 601.4 lbs of Natular XRT, and 1,153.7 lbs of BTI based products, on the Airport's behalf, to control mosquito sources in and around the Goleta Slough.



Rodents

Airport focused on the reduction of ground squirrel populations on the airfield for 2011. Rodents on the airfield attract predators that pose a collision hazard for aircraft. Rodents also create an FAA compliance issue by undermining and creating uneven surfaces in runway safety areas. The Airport is required by FAA to maintain safety areas in a smooth, compact condition. On-going rodent control is necessary to maintain a safe environment for aircraft operations.

No red materials were applied to control rodents in 2011. Airport applied 41 pounds of Wilco Squirrel Bait and 9.25 lbs of Ditrac, both yellow diphacinone based baits. Heavy rains early in 2011 helped to naturally reduce gopher populations on the airfield.



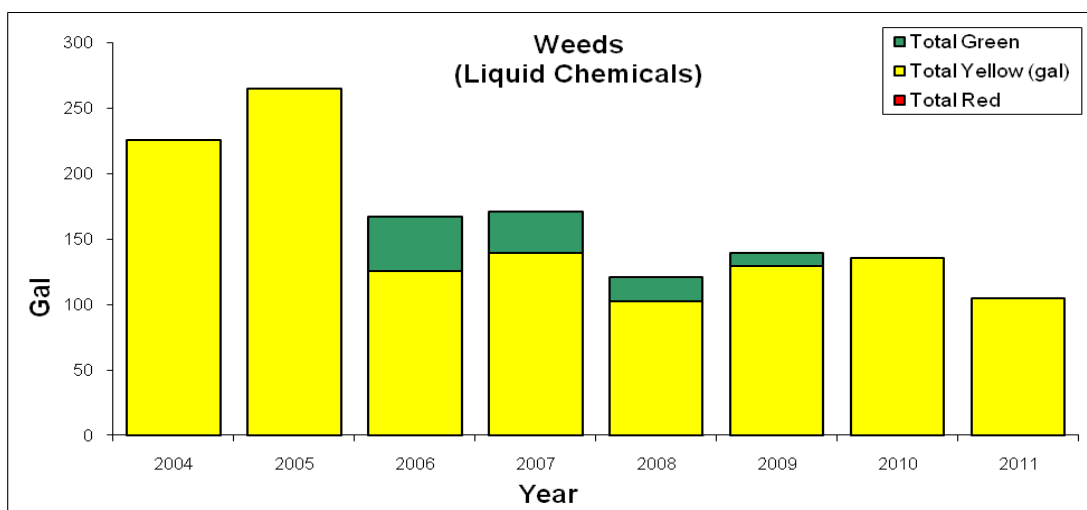
Weeds

In addition to the extensive manual weed control program at the Airport, staff used the yellow products Roundup ProMax and Surflan to maintain the airfield as needed for safe aircraft operations and to preserve infrastructure. Herbicides were used to prevent weeds from obscuring airfield lights and signs, and to prevent weeds from deteriorating airfield assets.

A small amount of yellow materials were also used, consistent with PHAER designations, on the Hollister Avenue traffic islands.

For 2010, Airport applied the following herbicides:

- 75.13 gallons of Roundup Promax (yellow liquid)
- 30 gallons of Surflan (yellow liquid)



Citywide IPM Effort Totals:

To minimize direct and indirect human health and safety hazards posed by pests at the Airport, the Department is the major user of pesticides in the city. Airport Department used 88% of all liquid pesticides and 77% of all dry pesticides applied by the City in 2010, but also contributed over 34% of the alternative effort hours that were recorded citywide.

Mosquito control efforts in the Goleta Slough that help prevent the spread of West Nile Virus account for over 73% of the pesticide units applied by the city.

2011 Strategy Changes:

In 2011 Airport anticipates requesting an exemption to treat buildings for termites.